



Atty. Dkt. No. 023971-0314

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Kazuo YATABE et al.  
Title: CONTROL APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
TAKING FAILURE COUNTERMEASURE FOR  
HYBRID VEHICULAR DRIVE SYSTEM  
Appl. No.: 10/681,309  
Filing Date: 10/9/2003  
Examiner: Jeffrey J. Restifo  
Art Unit: 3618  
Confirmation Number: 7978

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

06/30/2006 HALI11 00000151 10681309

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WASH\_1638593.1

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(d), before payment of the issue fee.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Documents B2-B5 were cited on May 30, 2006 in a Japanese Office Action in a counterpart Japanese application.

Documents B1 and B2 belong to the same "patent family", whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Commercially available English language abstracts as well as computer generated English translations are provided herewith for each of the Japanese language documents B2-B5.

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.704(d) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this

communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

**FEE**

A credit card payment form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) to cover the fee associated with an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) in the amount of \$180.00.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

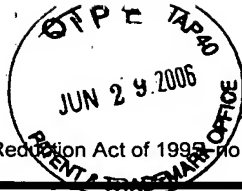
Respectfully submitted,

Date June 29, 2006

By 

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> Date Submitted: June 29, 2006 (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/681,309
Sheet 1 of 1				Filing Date	10/9/2003
				First Named Inventor	Kazuo YATABE
				Group Art Unit	3618
				Examiner Name	Jeffrey J. Restifo
				Attorney Docket Number	023971-0314

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	B1	6,098,733		IBARAKI ET AL.	08-08-2000	

UNPUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Application Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Filing Date of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Serial Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B2	JP	9-117008	A	TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.	05-02-1997		T
	B3	JP	11-332018	A	TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.	11-30-1999		T
	B4	JP	2000-92612	A	TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.	03-31-2000		T
	B5	JP	2001-320806	A	TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.	11-16-2001		T

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.